Recruitment of unemployed pilots of Vayudoot

1039. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India and Indian Airlines have been advised to recruit unemployed pilots of Vayudoot;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) whether Government propose to wind up Vayudoot?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Public Sector Undertakings under the Department of Civil Aviation have been advised to select suitable employees of Vayudoot before going to open market.

(b) Air India has recruited nine Vayudoot pilots.

(c) Various alternatives are under consideration of the Government in regard to the future set-up of Vayudoot Ltd.

Construction of Three Star and Four Star Hotels

1040. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) What steps are being taken by Government to encourage construction of three star and four star hotels all over the country;

(b) whether it is a fact that ITDC has encouraged luxury hotels only; if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) What steps are being taken to make available cheaper rooms for Indian tourists?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (c) The Government is encouraging growth of hotel accommodation in the country by giving fiscal incentives and providing loans through financial institutions. The State Governments have also been requested to provide necessary infrastructure support in this regard. Quantum of fiscal incentives is higher for 1, 2 and 3 star category hotels and construction of Yatri Niwases, Yatrikas, Tourist Complexes with accommodation, tourist bungalows etc. is also being encouraged.

(b) No, Sir. The majority of ITDC owned hotels are below 5-star category.

Changes in the Electricity Act

1041. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether any changes are contemplated in the existing Electricity Act so as to comply with the condition of the World Bank loan for power projects; and

(b) if so, what are the main amendments proposed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Profit and Loss position of Airlines

1042. KUMARI SAYEEDA KHATUN:

SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to cut down substantially the losses incured by the Indian Airlines;

(b) what was the total loss incurred by it during the last financial year and what is the loss expected for current financial year and what is the accumulated loss so far;